

Application No.: 09/820,420

Docket No.: 55507US016

Remarks

Claims 2-9 and 15-22 are pending. Claims 9 and 22 have been canceled. Thus, claims 2-8 and 15-21 remain under consideration. Claims 2 and 15 are amended.

Claims 9 and 22 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 2 been amended to include the limitations of claim 9 and is, therefore, allowable. Claim 15 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 22 and is, therefore, allowable.

Each of claims 3-8 depends from claim 2 and is allowable for at least all of the reasons that claim 2 is allowable.

Each of claims 16-21 depends from claim 15 and is allowable for at least all of the reasons that claim 15 is allowable.

Conclusion

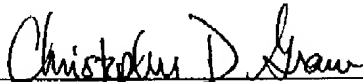
In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 2-8 and 15-21 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

By:



Christopher D. Gram, Reg. No.: 43,643

Telephone No.: 651-733-1507

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833